



Cornell University
ILR School

Cornell University ILR School
DigitalCommons@ILR

Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

7-1-1927

Justice (Vol. 9, Iss. 26)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/justice>

Thank you for downloading an article from DigitalCommons@ILR.

Support this valuable resource today!

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) at DigitalCommons@ILR. It has been accepted for inclusion in Justice by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@ILR. For more information, please contact catherwood-dig@cornell.edu.

If you have a disability and are having trouble accessing information on this website or need materials in an alternate format, contact web-accessibility@cornell.edu for assistance.

Justice (Vol. 9, Iss. 26)

Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteous-
ness I hold fast,
and will not let
it go."
—Job 27:6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers
of the world
unite! You
have nothing to
lose but your
chains."

Vol. IX, No. 26

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1937

PRICE 3 CENTS

Infants' Coat Workers Demand 42 Hours

Members of Local 91 Vote to Ask
Shorter Work Day

At a mass meeting of workers in the infant coats shops of New York, members of Local 91, last Tuesday, June 23, it was decided unanimously to demand that a 42-hour week be included in the agreements to be signed with the employers in this trade on or about July 21.

The meeting was addressed by Vice-President Harry Greenberg, manager of Local 91, and by Bro. Philip Kurinsky of "Justice" staff. An increase in wages was another of the demands that the workers will insist upon.

At present the agreements provide for a 44-hour week. There are no established minimum scales in the trade. There are in all about 150 shops in this branch of the garment industry in and about New York, employing a total of 2,500 workers. It was learned.

The local is at present conducting in advance of the expiration of the agreement an organization drive against the non-union firms in the trade.

Proportional Representation Referendum Will Be Held Next October

Chief Executive Body in Three-Day Session Reviews
State of I. L. G. W. U.—Condition in Various M-
Successful Fight Against Communist Misrule
Raincoat Campaign Voted for Chicago and Bo

The fifth quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. was held in New York City instead of Boston as announced last week, and lasted from Friday morning, June 24, to Sunday evening. The change in place was caused by the requirement of President Sigman's presence in New York in connection with the efforts of the International to secure the pardon of several imprisoned cloakmakers.

The meeting began as usual with the reading of the report of the preceding meeting and of the several special New York Board meetings that occurred in the interval. This formality over, President Sigman gave the members of the Board an oral report on conditions in the Inter-

national, covering practically every local union with the organization. President Sigman's report consumed the first session of the meeting.

The Fight Against the Communists

Briefly sketching the high spots of the New York situation for the past four months, President Sigman paid special attention to the outstanding events connected with the fight against the Communist usurpers and the results following immediately the reorganization drive undertaken by the International in the four local unions in New York City. He expressed gratification with the outcome of this campaign, inasmuch as it actually brought back into the fold of the International the overwhelming majority of cloakmakers and dressmakers. He analyzed in detail the condition of the individual locals, and his resume left no doubt that, to all intents and purposes, the struggle against the disrupters has proved an

(Continued on Page 3)

Unity House Ready for Big 4th of July

Special Attractions for Week-Enders

House is ready to accommodate a large number of vacationers during the forthcoming week-end of July period.

Management has taken unusual pains to make this holiday especially while for its host of visitors. The chef has promised to excel his previous achievements on the feed-line, and the social directors have in store a concert and a program that alone should justify the trip.

Let it be remembered that the tennis courts, the ball grounds, the bowling alleys, and the general athletic fields are in perfect working order, and their use may be had for a mere asking.

Then again that mile and a half long lake, Unity Lake! It is a source of endless fun for the lover of water sports, and who among our friends can remain indifferent at the mentioning of rowing, swimming, diving, canoeing, and all other aquatic diversions?

There are, remember, but limited reservations, and unless you hurry up, these will be snapped up in lightning fashion. So get busy at once and call at on call up for information Chelsea 2148, and ask any point you don't know. You'll receive courteous and prompt attention, and if you are in time, you'll get your reservation and your big bundle of fun.

Cloak and Dress Workers Occupy Joint Board Building

Flowers, Banners and Enthusiastic Throng Greet Occupation of
Joint Board by International Forces—Communists Try to
Break Up Meeting But Fail—Speakers from Building Windows
Get Ovation—Joint Board Functions Now Normally in Big
Headquarters

Fully 3,000 cloak and dress makers marched down last Thursday afternoon, June 23, to the Joint Board building from shops and meeting places and participated in the celebration marking the final elimination of the Communists from their last stronghold in the ladies' garment workers' unions in New York City. One week before that Municipal Court Justice Gennung had given the order that the Communists get out

for non-payment of \$12,000 back rent, but before they retired they managed, in true Communist fashion, to strip the building of all furniture and office furnishings and other property that belonged to the workers.

The demonstration in front of the (Continued on Page 2)

Organization Committee Takes Down On Strike 30 More Shops

Walkout Called for Violation of Union Standards—Many Firms
Settle

That the cloak and dress organization is earnestly intent on turning its whole attention to maintaining and safeguarding union work terms in the shops must have become evident last

week to many employees, when the Organization Committee of the Joint Board, acting upon instructions of the general manager, Bro. Julius Hochman, took down on strike the workers of 30 cloak and dress firms who were found violating union conditions on their premises.

The shops affected by this move are the following: Levenberg & Nisenoff, 20 W. 32nd St.; Fellenbaum Bros., 208 W. 27th St.; Lerner, 40 W. 22nd St.; Mortimer Cloak Co., 141 W. 19th St.; Melrose Girl Coat Co., 118 W. 27th St.; Pauline Coat Co., 143 W. 19th St.; Sportex Cloak Co., 535-8th Ave.; R. & E. Cloak Co., 22 W. 15th St.; Lou Blond, 48 W. 27th St.; Goldfinger & Friedman, 260 W. 37th

(Continued on Page 2)

Sacco-Vanzetti One-Hour Strike Thursday, July 7

As we go to press, we received the information that the Board of Directors of the Cloakmakers' and Dressmakers Joint Board has acted favorably on the request of the New York Sacco-Vanzetti Committee that all cloakmakers and dressmakers take part in the one-hour strike on July 7.

All members of the locals affiliated with the Joint Board are therefore called upon to stop from work on Thursday, July 7, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The Sacco-Vanzetti committee has arranged several meetings for that afternoon, and the members of our Union are requested to watch the daily labor press for the place of these meetings, and to proceed to these gatherings in a body, directly from the shops.

Union Gains Freedom for Four More Cloakmakers

I. L. G. W. U. Members Stage Reception for Liberated Victims of
Communist Duplicity

Last Saturday morning, June 25, Bro. Ben Moser, secretary of the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board, accompanied Jos. Poronsky, Nathan Leaz, Samuel Cohen and Frank Morad'no, four members of the Union paroled the night before from Harts Island through the unceasing efforts of President Sigman, to the office of the International, 3 West 16th St., where they were met by several hundred members of the Union who eagerly awaited their arrival.

The four liberated cloakmakers, like Bro. Pigowitz paroled a week before, are victims of Communist double-dealing and treachery. These men were induced by the Communist chieftains of the 1926 lost cloak strike to plead guilty to crimes they never committed promising them light "fifty-dollar" sentences, in order that they themselves, the chiefs,

might get off scot-free. The result was that these men were given from one to five years jail terms, without a chance for appeal.

At the office of the parole board, the prisoners were met by their (Continued on Page 2)

Cloakmakers and Dressmakers, Attention!

The 4th of July is a legal holiday in the cloak and dress industry of New York. All members of the Union are reminded that they must, without exception, all stay away from the shops on that day.

Week workers are to receive a full day's pay for the day. Violators will be severely punished.

JULIUS HOCHMAN, General Manager,
BEN MOSER, Secretary-Treasurer,
Joint Board Cloak and Dress Unions of New York.

Joint Board Reoccupies Old Union Headquarters

(Continued from Page 1)

Joint Board building by crowds of cloakmakers and dress workers who filled the whole block on the 25th Street side of the big house lasted for nearly two hours. A number of shops sent a desk to the office of the dress department to replace one stolen by the Communists. The meeting was addressed from the first floor window of the building by several speakers who were cheered repeatedly. Among those who spoke were Abraham Baroff, Secretary-Treasurer of the I. L. G. W. U., general manager Julius Hochman, Vice-Presidents Mollie Friedman, Salvatore Ninfo, J. Halperin, David Dubinsky, Luigi Antonini and Ben Moser, Paul Dembitzer, Isidore Nagler and Benjamin Kaplan, chairman of the Joint Board.

Before the meeting was concluded a few Communists from an adjacent building tried to create disorder. One of their professional "fainters" edged into the union gathering and suddenly went into a dead faint. This was a signal for the tumult to begin. It appears that at a Communist meeting earlier in the day it was decided to send out an "entertainment" committee to break up the union demonstration. As soon as the woman fell into the pretended fit, a number of Communist knife-wielders began to rush the end of the union crowd and slash right and left. The disorder, however, lasted only a few minutes

and soon the gang was driven away and quiet restored.

Flowers From Shops

The following dress shops sent flowers:

Ben Gershel Dress Corp., 498 7th Avenue; Max Kusher—shop chairman. Ruby Dress, 148 W. 23rd Street, L. C. Paley—shop chairman. Plon Bros. & Bobrowsky, 262 W. 38th Street; Rose Radnoffsky—shop chairlady. E. Priest, 119 W. 23rd Street; Lena Wilke—shop chairlady. I. Zimmerman, 550 7th Avenue, J. Leibowitz—shop chairman. I. Leibowitz, 38 W. 21st Street; H. Weinstein—shop chairman. M. Schwartz, 40 W. 21st Street; D. Becker—shop chairman. Aywon Dress, 361 W. 36th Street; Morris Spiegelman—shop chairman. (A desk for the Secretary of Local No. 22.) Piccadilly Dress, 143 W. 20th Street; Abr. Block—shop chairman. Gordon & Rothblum, 141 W. 24th Street; Morris Meyers—shop chairman. I. Leberman, 575 8th Avenue, Rose Rau—shop chairlady. R'ngler & Meiselman, 29 W. 35th Street; Lilly Riatano—shop chairlady. Caron Bros., 247 W. 38th Street; Alex Cantor—shop chairman. La Rue Dress, 240 W. 35th Street; Shulman—shop chairman. Bro. Luigi Antonini.

PRESIDENT SIGMAN ISSUES STATEMENT

When the reoccupation of the Joint Board building by the union forces became a fact, President Sigman made the following statement on behalf of the International:

"Not content with squandering \$3,500,000 during their conduct of the New York cloakmakers' strike of 1926, and with using up hundreds of thousands of dollars of employers' securities, as well as special securities, which they were required to return, the late Communist misleaders of our union, before vacating the Joint Board building which belonged to the rank and file of the cloak and dress unions, committed therein acts of vandalism, despoiled the building of all its furnishings and committed other acts calculated to disgrace the bona fide trades union movement. They were forcibly prevented, by officers of the law, from doing more complete damage than they did.

"Responsible trades union officials know the character of these practices, but it is important that the general public know of their activities.

"By taking over the building at 130 West 25th Street and re-establishing there Joint Board headquarters, we have administered the final blow to this group of mischief makers and have eliminated them completely out of the trades union movement.

Our machinery, organized for the purpose of eliminating the non-union conditions which sprang up in our industry during the Communist adventure, will now be able to function more effectively and combat all violations of union standards in the shops. There is no more room for discussion of Communism in our unions. The unions are now devoting themselves to rehabilitating 100 per cent. the conditions in the industry."

FICHANDLER AND LOVETT TO SPEAK AT UNITY

Al. Fichandler will speak on Wednesday morning, July 6, in the pine grove at Unity House, Forest Park, on Social Psychology.

Prof. R. M. Lovett will speak to Unity vacationists on the morning of July 13, on Social Interpretation of Literature.

GLICKSTEIN'S DESIGNING SCHOOL

266 Grand Street, New York
Bet. Chrystie and Forsyth Sts.
Tel. Orchard 8-4-2
School for Designing, Cutting and Grading in all trades of ladies', men's, children's and fur garments. Patterns cut at low prices.
The school is open all year around.

Thirty More Cloak Shops In Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

St.; Katz & Fishel, 27 W. 33rd St.; Townsend Cloak Co., 43 W. 25th St.; Weinstein & Novick, 307 W. 38th St.; Pollock & Schneider, 104 W. 30th St.; Price & Leviton, Inc., 6 W. 18th St.; Beata Cloak & Dress Co., 16 W. 19th St.; Youthmaid Cloak Co., 225 W. 35th St.; L. Passamanick, 138 W. 17th St.; Dainty Coat House, 34-36 W. 27th St.; Kerner & Wachter, 250 W. 40th St.; Sidney Cohen, 134 W. 37th St.; Wear Fine Cloak Co., 520-8th Ave.; A. Miller, 134 W. 37th St.; Moll & Seifert, 247 W. 36th St.; Bernstein & Minkoff, 150 W. 30th St.; Block-Santo Garment Co., 520-8th Ave.; Graft & Waldman, 265 W. 37th St.; Tuttleman & Sherman, 152 W. 25th St.; Goodman & Brodax, 242 W. 38th St.; Troy & Jacobson, 325 W. 37th St.

Several firms whose shops had been in strike for some time prior to this move, perceived the wisdom of getting on peace terms with the Union and conceded the demands of their workers signing the union agreement. These firms are:

Goldstein & Potashnick, 29 E. 15th Street; Janoff & Bousel, 20 E. 17th Street; Kupperberg & Ratkin, 29 W. 17th Street; Ben Levy & Sons, 462 Seventh Avenue; Libow & Bloom, 38 W. 32nd Street; P. Moshkowsky & Son, 241 W. 39th Street; Samuel Sammelman, 9 W. 17th Street; Romaen Cloak Co., 553-8th Avenue; Block-Santo Garment Co., 520-8th Avenue;

Weingart & Blumenkrantz, 307 W. 38th Street.

Remaining on strike from before are:

Sidney Cohen, 134 W. 37th Street; Goldklang & Goldberg, 185-6th Avenue; Goldstein Bros., 142 W. 32nd Street; Kerner & Wachter, 250 W. 40th Street; J. Korostoff & Sons, 270 W. 38th Street; A. Miller, 134 W. 37th Street; N. A. Rubin, 501-7th Avenue; L. Savodnick, 250 W. 35th Street; Jos. Stein, 142 W. 36th Street; Wee-Women, 1372 Broadway; Schneider & Laufer, 307 W. 38th Street.

INTERNATIONAL OBTAINS FREEDOM FOR FOUR MORE CLOAKMAKERS

(Continued from Page 1)

wives and children, and upon their coming to the International building they were first greeted by President Morris Sigman. The freed men and their families fairly swamped Bro. Sigman with expressions of gratitude for his tireless work on their behalf. The crowd of cloakmakers, which by that time increased to big proportions, then invaded the auditorium and staged an impromptu meeting, at which Brothers Sigman, Hochman, Moser and several others spoke. The released prisoners, too, delivered talks and told the story of how they had been tricked by the Communist picket chiefs and pledged themselves now to devote their all to the service of their union and their fellow workers who came to their rescue.

DRESSMAKERS

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 22, I. L. G. W. U.

Regular Section Meetings

will be held

Thursday, July 7th, 1927

at 7:30 P. M.

in the following places:

BRONX:

MCKINLEY SQUARE GARDENS, 1258 Boston Road

DOWN TOWN:

BEETHOVEN HALL, 210 East 5th Street

BROWNSVILLE:

LABOR LYCEUM, 219 Sackman Street

Sisters and Brothers:

We have many important problems to discuss and disprove. You are urged to attend these meetings and participate in transaction of the Union's affairs. At the Brownsville meeting a section chairman and secretary will be elected.

Fraternally yours,

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 22.

J. COOPER, Chairman

J. SPIELMAN, Secretary.

P. S. Our office is located at the Joint Board Building, 130 East 25th Street on the first floor.

Buy Union Stamped Shoes

We ask all members of organized labor to purchase shoes bearing our Union Stamp on the sole, inner-sole or lining of the shoe. We ask you not to buy any shoes unless you actually see this Union Stamp.

Boot & Shoe Workers' Union

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor
246 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

COLLIS LOVELLY
General President

CHARLES L. BAINE,
General Secretary-Treasurer



LEARN DESIGNING

Earn 50 to 200 Dollars a Week

Take A Course of Instruction in THE MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL OF MEN'S, WOMEN'S, MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S WEARING APPAREL AND LADIES' FUR GARMENTS.

The Mitchell School of Designing, pattern making, grading, draping and fitting of cloaks, suits, dresses, fur garments and men's garments has achieved—

New Ideas—New Systems—Best Results
A course of instruction in the Mitchell Designing School means an immediate position—Bigger Pay.

DEMONSTRATION FREE AT OUR SCHOOL

—A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN—

EASY TO LEARN Individual Instruction Day and Evening Sessions

Evening Sessions: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Call for Free Booklet and Full Information

MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED OVER 50 YEARS

15 West 37th Street

Telephone: Wisconsin 8970

New York

The Meeting of the General Executive Board

(Continued from Page 1)

amazing and all-round success.

From this analysis he proceeded to the discussion of the present financial condition of the union as a whole, stressing the necessity of increased revenue for all the affiliated organizations and pointing out that now, that the new season is at hand, nothing should be left undone to place the union on a more solid income-and-expense basis than in the preceding crucial period, when everything had to be directed along one line—to save the union from total destruction at the hands of the Communists.

Chicago, Cleveland, Boston

Concerning Chicago, which he visited several weeks ago, President Sigman told the members of the board that he had found the membership of the I. L. G. W. U. locals overwhelmingly loyal to the International, save for groups of wily and cunning intriguers directed from Communist headquarters who, for the moment, have some of the locals in their official clutch. He believed, however, that their reign is but short-lived, and that energetic and sound leadership on the part of the trade union element of that city will soon wrest the local management from its present Communist henchmen.

Cleveland, according to President Sigman's report, is organizationally in a very sound condition and is not affected by Communist ailment. There are in that city, however, a few unorganized cloak and dress shops and these will have to be brought into the fold by Byeler activity than heretofore displayed.

In Boston, the internal enemies of the Union have until now done everything in their power to create mischief and to confuse the minds of the workers. They have succeeded in their nasty work in some locals, but failed in others. While recently in Boston, this group, which works hand in glove with the New York commissars, have attempted to disrupt meetings that were to be addressed by President Sigman—going to the extent of spreading calumnious reports about him, and stationing agents at various corners in the garment district after work hours to mislead the workers by informing them that the meetings were postponed or would not take place at all. Despite all these manoeuvres, the meeting was attended by 500 members, a high figure for Boston, and was a signal success from every viewpoint. President Sigman emphasized, however, the necessity of continued attention to the situation in Boston. He also stated that the International should devote some effort to put into better shape the local of raincoat makers in Boston which has suffered materially in recent months.

In speaking of Baltimore, President Sigman called to the attention of the Board the fact that that city still remains a sore spot on the International map, and that owing to the concentration of effort in New York City, conditions in Baltimore have changed a great deal to the worst in the past six months.

Smaller New York Locals

In turning again to affairs in New York City, President Sigman pointed out satisfactory conditions in the raincoat trade and the workers' organization in it, Local 20. Local 62, is in a sound state, but needs a great deal of active organizing work to raise it to a higher influence in the industry. Local 33, which recently passed out of Communist control into trade union hands, is in good condition and is taking care of its affairs in satisfactory fashion. Local 91 has held an election recently and is now preparing to renew agreements in the infants' coat line which expire in July. In Local 66, the Bonnaz Embroidery workers, recent by-elections have taken the executive board out of Communist control, and the organization, weakened and impoverished by incompetent and wasteful management, is now beginning to pick up new life in the hope that they might succeed to bring it back to its former position of influence in the trade.

Open Forums, Agitation

Concerning affairs of a general trade union interest, President Sigman informed the members of the G. E. B. of the organization of an agitation bureau in the General Office, with Bro. P. Dembitzer in charge. This bureau has, for the past three months, carried on a lively leaflet campaign in the New York cloak and dress market, and has organized meetings and open forums, spreading its activity to outside organizations as part of its educational and informative work with regard to the issues involved in the anti-Communist fight waged by the International. Bro. Sigman also mentioned, among other matters, the recent celebration held by Local 10 of its twenty-fifth anniversary, an affair which was marked by a series of festivities on a grand scale. The Dental Clinic of the Union Health Center also celebrated recently the tenth anniversary of its existence by a banquet which was attended by all I. L. G. W. U. organizations.

Prosanis Label, Insurance

The Prosanis Label, President Sigman told the Board, is an institution which has suffered greatly in the past few seasons due to Communist counter-agitation and consequent neglect by the membership. It is, however, a very useful safeguard against non-union and sub-standard production in the cloak and dress industry, and the Union should at present do all it can to enforce it in the shops.

Another subject discussed in the President's report was the recent organization of the Union Labor Life Insurance Company under trade union control, in Washington, D. C. The I. L. G. W. U. is represented on the board of this company through President Sigman, and our members are asked to become interested in the work of this institution and patronize it as their own insurance company.

He also reported on his work in connection with securing a parole for several of the cloakmakers impris-

oned as a result of the late cloak strike and stated that he expected to see them free in the near future.

President Sigman concluded his report by calling the attention of the members of the Board to the necessity of initiating as soon as possible a national referendum on the question of proportional representation as per the direction of a mandate from the

REPORTS OF VICE PRESIDENTS:

Vice-President Ninfo reported that his organization had secured a prohibitive writ against the practice of the scab Communist group to intimidate some Italian cloakmakers into paying dues to them. The writ also demands that this group deliver to the court all of their books so that an accounting may be had of any money misappropriated by them in this manner. He also reported that he visited Local 80, Italian cloakmakers of Boston, and stated that they have a compact and loyal organization.

Work in Brooklyn

Vice-President Halperin reported that slack conditions have in the last few months weakened some of the out-of-town locals in the large metropolitan district, while most of the others are holding out well. The work of the out-of-town department is now principally directed in doing active work in the Williamsburg and Bensonhurst districts of Brooklyn, where a large number of non-union cloak and dress shops have grown up during the Communist regime. Besides, Bro. Halperin is in charge of the Jobbers' Department in the Joint Board, and has succeeded in increasing the Union's prestige in this field through direct negotiations with the jobbers' association and by pressure upon individual jobbers resulting in strikes, which are proving quite successful. On the whole, the headway in this department is very gratifying.

Vice-President Greenberg reported that conditions in the bath robe, children's dress and infants' coat organization are quite normal, the local having had recently elections for officers which passed off satisfactorily. He informed the Board members that an association of infant coats' manufacturers has recently been formed in the trade, and the Union is now endeavoring to negotiate a collective agreement with it, insisting, among other things, on a 42-hour week as an absolute condition. Organizing work preliminary to agreement signing has now begun in this trade. Single shop strikes are occurring in the bath robe trade, the outstanding one conducted at present being that against the Kaufman firm. He further stated that during the eight weeks' absence from New York of Secretary-Treasurer Haroff, he had filled the vacancy, and performed his duties, with the cordial cooperation of the office and of all vice-presidents, to the best of his ability.

Vice-President Luigi Antonini also told the members of the Board that his local, No. 89, Italian dressmakers, has restrained the Communist money-flickers from collecting dues from

last Philadelphia convention, adding that this referendum could not be called sooner because the Union's attention had been preoccupied by the cloak strike precipitated last summer by the Communists then in charge of the joint board in New York and later by the fight against Communist domination waged by the International Union.

The Jubilee of Local 10

Vice-President Dubinsky told of the splendid anniversary Local 10 had held in March, and of the excellent effect this celebration has had on the cutters' organization. The book published in connection with that event, dealing with the history of Local 10, was well received by outstanding persons in the Labor movement, and was highly commented upon by labor historians. The local, on the whole, was not affected in any degree by the pervasive Communist propaganda and its morale is today stronger than ever.

Vice-President Max Amdur reported that he was in New York until March doing work for the General Office. Since then he is stationed in Boston, where, he believes, the chances for organizational growth and a complete recovery of strength are very good. There are a large number of non-union shops in both the cloak and dress trades, multiplied during the period of Communist disruption and tumult, but these can be brought under control if an earnest effort is made. The "lefts" in Boston are working as per New York Communist orders and are about as nasty as their New York prototypes.

The raincoat situation in Boston, however, requires immediate attention, if the local is to amount to anything as a factor in the trade. Bro. Amdur laid special emphasis on this point and asked the Board to take action. Bro. Amdur also reported on the Canadian situation by pointing out examples of Communist depredations in Toronto which have weakened the local organization materially and said that the Montreal cloak union is in poor shape as well.

Philadelphia Dressmakers

Vice-President Reisberg presented a comprehensive report dealing with the condition of the dress workers' local which he is managing, since the recent adjustment with the dress manufacturers' association of that city in February. The last season was a poor one and that hurt matters quite a bit, though the spirit among the workers continues excellent. There is work to be done on a large scale in the Philadelphia dress trade, and the local is on the alert constantly to take advantage of every opportunity to further its influence among the workers and in the industry.

Vice-President Kreindler spoke of

(Continued on page 7)

HARLEM BANK OF COMMERCE

2118—2nd AVENUE, NEW YORK

Tel. Lehigh 3000-1-2-3

Branch: 431—3rd AVE., N. Y.

Tel. Lexington 9055

The Workers' Bank for Workers

All Banking Operations

4 1/2 %

Money Orders, Letters of Credit, Drafts, Membership Agency, Notary Public, Safe Deposits.

AFFILIATED WITH

ATLANTIC STATE BANK

594 ATLANTIC AVE., BROOKLYN

Branches:

182 GRAHAM AVE., BROOKLYN

108th ST., Cor. 1st AVE., New York

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 3 West 15th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer

— MAX O. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

Vol. IX, No. 26

New York, Friday, July 1, 1927

Entered as Second Class matter, April 18, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 24, 1919.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148MORRIS SIGMAN, President A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

Vol. IX, No. 26

Friday, July 1, 1927

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1926, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

EDITORIALS

BACK HOME

The cloak and dress workers of New York returned home last Thursday.

After twenty months of wandering, of lodging in temporary quarters, our members last week regained possession of the big building at Lexington Avenue and Twenty-Fifth Street and re-established offices in it. They have found it, upon their return, stripped of all furniture and office appliances, bare walls smeared with filth and grime, as if a horde of barbarians had gone through it bent on leaving nothing but ruin behind.

The Communists, during the months that they were in possession of the big cloakmakers' house, and in the final days before they were ousted from the building, had done all they could to wreck it. There is little doubt that, save for fear of jail, they would have set the house on fire rather than see the cloakmakers take hold of it again. But, though despoiled and besmirched by the Communists, their home, for the acquisition on which they have struggled and saved for years, is not a whit less dear to the hearts of our workers. On the contrary. While this final example of Communist viciousness only served to accentuate their own helpless rage, it brought out all the clearer the affection in which the rank and file of the cloak and dress workers hold the constructive leadership of their organization and the institutions which they have helped to rear and maintain.

We were there on that now historic afternoon, when thousands of cloakmakers and dressmakers, streaming in and out for hours, have filled all the corridors and rooms of all the six floors of what once was the home of their organization. We saw middle aged men and women feeling cautiously the walls and remaining partitions, trying out the disjointed window sashes, as if wondering how these escaped final destruction at the hands of Communist vandals. We saw eyes of young women workers, who brought flowers from their shops to the formal opening of the Joint Board building, filled with tears as they discovered the havoc at every step and turn; the wrenched out locks, the demolished fixtures, the disconnected telegraph and telephone wires, and other signs of plunder.

We heard the shouts of joy, the volleys of applause that greeted every remark by the speakers from the impromptu platform in the first floor window, as one after another they interpreted to the crowds below the great significance of this homecoming of the Cloakmakers' and Dressmakers' Union. And we also witnessed the ignominious attempt of a handful of Communists to break up the wonderful demonstration of our workers, an attempt which could have ended very sadly for the marauders save for the admirable self-restraint of our members who, in face of this provocation, departed quietly from the meeting rather than give the whirling Communist dervishes a chance to ordain a few more "martyrs".

The filth which the Communists left behind them after they fled from the Joint Board building has been cleaned out; the damage is pretty nearly all repaired, and the stolen furniture and appliances have, in part, been replaced. Communist filth and depredations, it seems, can't daunt our workers any longer; in the past few years they have become accustomed to these now blunted Communist weapons and they know how to neutralize their harm.

The Cloak and Dress Joint Board, back in its own home, is now functioning again in full vigor and capacity. The masses of workers, who for the past six months used to crowd the rather inadequate temporary quarters of the Joint Board in the International building, are now finding adequate room for their needs in the big building they know and like so well. But, of course, it is not only this physical comfort that accounts for the widespread joy and satisfaction that prevails in all cloak and dress workers circles. It is the immense moral value of the event, the feeling that the cloakmakers and dressmakers had turned the impostors and fakers out of their last fort, that the Communist hydra in our Union received the final smashing blow from which it will never recover.

OUR LIBERATED PRISONERS

Five victims of Communist treachery, five cloakmakers who were induced by the "revolutionary" leaders of last year's ill-fated cloak strike to plead guilty to charges of which they all the time have claimed to be innocent, are at liberty again.

These workers, who were sent to jail in order that the cowardly commissars in charge of that strike might save their own precious necks, have paid the penalty for having been gullible enough to trust to Communist "idealism". Fortunately, their eyes

were quickly opened to the miserable game the Communists have played in our unions, and they appealed for aid to the International. And the tireless efforts of President Sigman in particular, after weeks of persistent trying, resulted last Saturday in the parole of four prisoners, in addition to the cloakmaker freed two weeks ago.

These men, sentenced to from one to five years of prison, were automatically barred, through that piece of Communist treachery that brought about their pleas of guilt, from every opportunity to appeal their sentences. Nothing but a pardon could save these innocent cloakmakers from the long jail terms, and the International leaders proceeded to work in the direction. Needless to say that the obstacles in the way of a parole were hard and many. Only after it had been made clear beyond a shadow of a doubt to the members of the Parole Board, the prosecuting attorney and to Judge Rosalsky who had sentenced them, that these cloakmakers were not criminals but plain union men trapped into a Communist snare, was their liberation finally secured.

The touching scenes that occurred when the freed prisoners were brought from jail to the International building where they were met by their wives and children; the impromptu reception meeting in the auditorium of the building where hundreds of our members greeted their liberated comrades; the fervent, burning pledges of fealty to their Union made by these erstwhile victims of Communist treason and inhumanity,—these scenes will never leave the memory of such as have had the chance to witness them. To our entire membership, and to the world at large, this release of the five cloakmaker prisoners achieved by the International will serve as additional testimony of its single-minded devotion to the interests and well-being of our workers.

We welcome our freed brothers back into the active ranks of our organization; we welcome them as men chastened by bitter experience with Communist duplicity, as men who have earned through pain and misery that trade union progress lies not in the direction of brotherly strife and confusion, but is lighted by the torch of genuine unity and honest, independent working class action.

THE REFERENDUM ON PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

The quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board, a detailed account of which the reader may find elsewhere in this issue, has agreed to present the question of proportional representation within the Union for a vote of the entire membership next October.

It is an important and welcome decision. It is the first time since the Philadelphia convention, a year and a half ago, that the Union is in a position to place this question for a determination by the members. The Communist-manipulated and Communist-led cloak strike of 1926, and the subsequent struggle to free the organization from the clutches of the commissars, have taken too much of the time and energy of the leadership of the Union in the past seventeen months to permit going ahead with even such an important organization reforms as the question of proportional representation undoubtedly is.

The referendum ballot that will be presented to the members of the I. L. G. W. U. in October will offer an alternative choice of amending the International's constitution, either by a rule adopting full proportional representation at international conventions and at joint boards, or through a modified, gradual representation that would give the larger local's bigger delegations at conventions and at central bodies than heretofore.

The Philadelphia convention has expressed itself in favor of the modified, gradual method of representation, but it decided, at the same time, to place before the members any and all proposals dealing with the question. This the General Executive Board voted now to do, by including the alternative propositions in the ballot. Moreover, as each proposal represents an important body of opinion within the Union, the Board declared itself in favor of having the alternative propositions fully and freely presented to the membership through committees representing both points of view.

The action of the General Executive Board thus insures the adoption of this reform in representation in our organization, in one form or another, before the next convention and before the next annual elections of delegates to joint boards in cities where our local unions have central bodies. It will bring to fruition a measure which the present leadership of the International, especially President Sigman, has endeavored to introduce for some years in the past. Were it not for the strife and disturbance that the Communists and their followers had brought into the organization in the past couple of years, there is no doubt that this reform would have been enacted a considerable time ago.

We shall come back to discuss in these columns the merits of the two proposals in the near future. In the meantime we invite a general discussion of this subject by our readers in "Justice", welcoming fair-minded presentation of fact and argument by any side.

ONE YEAR AGO

On July 1, 1926, the Communist Party, acting through its mannikins in the since defunct joint board, ordered a general strike in the New York cloak industry.

That order, ruthless, dictatorial and brutal, plunged into misery tens of thousands of cloakmakers and their families and brought to near-ruin a powerful trade union. The Communists, without heeding the true voice of the workers, without a referendum and without honest discussion, but badly in need of bolster-

This Business of Flying

By LOUIS STANLEY

If it were not for the fact that the newspaper-reading public did not find it so grimly serious the proposals for early transatlantic flying would be hilariously funny. Not that air trips between New York and Paris are mere stunts as the reactions of mayors and worthy citizens to the exploits of Lindbergh, Chamberlin and Levine might indicate. Aeronautical science can build engines and planes that can negotiate three thousand miles and more. Already a German concern is planning a hurried voyage by airplane from Berlin to San Francisco and return. Chamberlin in the first flush of his triumph, it will be remembered, announced the feasibility of a non-stop flight around the globe, provided somebody could be found to foot the bill. That is the point: can it pay? Is flying good business?

Thus far, commercial aviation the world over has generally not been profitable. In the United States capitalists have kept out of the air transportation business with such stubbornness that the sudden crop of transoceanic projects within the last few weeks looks, indeed, comical. In other parts of the world commercial aeronautics have been highly successful practically but unprofitable, nevertheless. Governments directly or indirectly have assumed deficits ostensibly for the sake of national defense and certainly for the profit of the private operators.

Lindbergh's Diagnosis

It is significant that in all his public utterances since landing at the Le Bourget flying field, Lindbergh has never ceased to comment on the remarkable development of commercial aviation abroad. He has assumed a tone of respect for the accomplishments of Europe. Being limited in his movements from one landing place to another, he was naturally impressed with the airports. He started the agitation in this country for municipal flying stations, as witness, the scramble of the New York City politicians over the location of the one to be built by the great metropolis. His own experience has led him to voice the necessity for governmental assistance in supplying reports on the weather and other natural conditions before flying could be made to pay. Finally, he seems to have been able to snatch enough time to converse with aircraft specialists and discover that airplane transportation in Europe is based upon government subsidies. He concludes that this is not necessary in the United States.

What are the facts? In Great Britain the business of flying is in the hands of the Imperial Airways, Ltd. This company was formed in 1924 to consolidate into one organization all the independent firms. The British

government is represented on the board of directors and because of this connection the company has to bow to military considerations. An Air Minister supervises civil as well as military and naval aviation. The Imperial Airways, Ltd., receives from the government a subsidy of five million dollars paid in diminishing amounts over a period of ten years. Repayment is made only when profits are above a certain amount.

Politics Through the Air

In France the government has followed the tradition established by its subsidized railroads in giving large grants to air lines. Five of the latter are in operation. One of the most successful has been the Latecoere Air Lines to Morocco. Least profitable has been the Franco-Roumaine, maintained for political reasons, to which the governments of Roumania, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Yugoslavia contribute. Since 1922 France has been paying direct subsidies of two million dollars a year. Its indirect aid in the form of navigation services has averaged seven million dollars annually. An example of the latter is the airdrome where Lindbergh landed, Le Bourget, where eleven reinforced concrete hangars are rented at nominal sums.

Germany has probably followed the most intelligent policy. The government has granted subsidies but with a view to encouraging independence of operation. Subsidies are paid for carrying mail and replacing material. The amount of the mail depends upon the number of flights and the carrying capacity of the plane. German air transportation is also facilitated by what is probably the world's largest lines, the famous Deutsche Luft Hansa. This was formed in March 1926 from a merger of the Junkers Luftverkehr and the Deutscher Aero Lloyd Aktien Gesellschaft. The latter had already consolidated most of the independent air lines under the powerful financial backing of such interests as Hugo Stinnes, Thyssen, Hamburg Amerika, Norddeutscher Lloyd and the Deutsche Bank. The Germans also have interests in lines outside of Germany particularly in South America, which are unduly successful.

Insurance Against Risk

One of the most important problems that air transportation companies must solve is insurance. The British insurance companies have combined to grant liberal terms to air lines. The French have been assisted materially by the law of 1924 which exempts the aircraft company from responsibility if such exemption is claimed on the ticket or bill of lading. The German insurance firms have formed a secret pool and in true German style they have been able to arrange for extremely low rates. The Dutch air lines, who also enjoy government subsidies with a minimum

of state control, however, have generally followed the practice of taking care of their risks themselves. An insurance fund is set aside each year, which has worked thus far because of the excellent safety record of the Dutch planes.

As compared with Europe, the United States has been notably backward in commercial air transportation. This is surprising in view of the favorable conditions in this country. There is a vast expanse of territory unhampered by restrictive political boundaries as in Europe, there is capital available, there is business necessity, there is comparatively fortunate natural conditions. About the only obstacle is the attitude of the insurance companies, who still nullify policies in case of accident or death occurs as a result of flights. Yet the only development of which the United States can boast has been the Air Mail. In this the United States has surpassed every other country of the world. It is because of this service that the records show that the United States planes flew in the years 1920-1924 more than one-quarter of the total mileage covered by aircraft throughout the world. Another interesting fact is that the record of the Air Mail for safety and regularity of service has been unsurpassed anywhere.

The U. S. Air Mail

The United States Air Mail under the auspices of the Post Office has been in operation since 1918. The first permanent route was the transcontinental established in 1919-192. A great deal of experimental work was accomplished in conducting this service and while the air mail has been run at a loss it is clear that eventually it can be put on a paying basis.

This explains the policy of the government in favoring the turning over of the business to private interests. On February 22, 1925 the Kelly Bill was passed for the encouragement of contract air mail routes. The Postmaster General was authorized to contract with private concerns to carry mail over old routes and those to be established in the future. The postage was to be ten cents per ounce. The contract price was limited to four-fifths of the revenue derived from the transportation of the mail over the route under contract. At the present time some seventeen such contract routes have been established and under the declared policy of Postmaster General New the private interests are in for an era of bliss.

Commercial aviation has also been aided by the Air Commerce Act of May 2, 1926. Under this law an assistant secretary in charge of aviation is created in the Department of Commerce. He is to promote aviation by developing navigation services such as beacons, radio-direction, fog-protection, weather information and maps, licensing pilots, certifying planes, laying out airways and establishing emergency fields. When we recall that the government at present expends some two hundred million dollars on water navigation and highways no objection can be made to this form of general assistance. Where the rub comes in is in the brazenness with which the government is setting out to create a private air transportation business in the United States. Of course, nothing else can be expected at this stage of development but it is logical to suppose that if contract mail is profitable for capitalists it can be just as profitable to the government. And certainly if a social view were taken of the situation, future conflict with private interests will be avoided by keeping this pioneer industry, this business of flying, under government control and ownership.

What Is A Labor Institute Like?

For three years now Brookwood Labor College has made its equipment and personnel available for trade unionists who wanted to combine summer vacation with some honest-to-goodness discussion of the problems that confront them in their industries and organizations. Railroaders, electrical workers, textile workers, held institutes last year. This summer, the women's auxiliaries have been added to the list.

At the general Labor Institute this year, the building trades, railroads and steel industry will receive special consideration. There's nothing formal about the sessions—you can speak right out in meeting. At the Railroad Institute last year, whatever speech was given in the evening was dissected by the group the next morning, and the men felt they got a lot

out of these post mortems.

There are only two sessions a day—morning and evening—so that the afternoons are left free for whatever you want to do—even including sleeping. As a summer hotel Brookwood might not be fashionable, but the beds are comfortable, the food is good (and plentiful), and the air fresh.

This is a good chance to get a vacation at most reasonable rates (\$20 a week for room, board and tuition) and at the same time mix with other fellows who are doing the same thing you are; find out what they are thinking, and what solutions our brethren the "experts" have to offer.

Fill out the enclosed blank now, while you have it handy, and send it to Secretary of Summer Institutes, Brookwood Labor College, Katonah, N. Y.

Open Forums Move To J. B. Building

Regular Meetings Held Daily in New Place

The open forums for cloakmakers and dressmakers, held until now each afternoon at the headquarters of the Organization Committee, 122 W. 18th Street, have now moved to the big building of the Joint Board, 120 East 25th Street, where discussions are held daily on the 3rd floor.

The forum was kept up at its former place for two full months, and proved a big success. Hundreds of cloak and dress workers visited the meetings daily during the slack period, taking part, unhampered and unmolested, in the discussions under the direction of trained speakers provided by the Union. And when the cloak and dress organization regained

possession of its old big headquarters on Lexington Avenue, it was only natural that the forum would move to one of the halls in that building.

As a matter of fact, last Thursday afternoon, when the Joint Board building had first been thrown open to members and friends of the Union, the entire attendance of the forum, 500 strong, marched up to East 25th Street, being among the first to reach the big headquarters.

During last week, the following speakers led the discussions at the forums all over the city: Bro. Ph. Karinsky, P. Dembitzer, Mollie Friedman, Sam'l Farber, L. Sterman and J. Levy.

ing up the waning prestige of their party, desperately staked everything on this mad gamble.

Twelve months, to the day, finds the Communist commissars completely dislodged from control, discredited, outcast and exposed in all their naked ugliness as reckless adventurers unfit to be associated with by any decent element in the Labor movement. Just one year after that debacle finds them reduced to importance in every one of their former strongholds, capable only of conducting ugly street brawls in alliance with the dregs of the community.

What swift historic retribution, what a fast reprisal for demagogues who would trample upon the rights of the workers and would ignore the true voice and will of the rank and file! What a lesson this metamorphosis holds for such pessimists who decline to take seriously the ability of the workers to defend themselves in times of emergency, and what a vindication of faith in the sound sense and unfailing judgment of the mass of our members this historic verdict reveals?



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Who Should Organize Women?

The Girls Agree on Miss Thompson

By FANNIA M. COHN

"Do you know, Jennie, I did go to the meeting that Miss Thompson called, and I enjoyed myself immensely."

"But Gert, didn't you say you'd never go to a union meeting?"

"Oh, that was long ago. You're talking about the time when a committee came around to our shop and gave out literature and fairly dragged us to a meeting."

"Yeah, that's the one," says Jennie, "what made you change your mind?"

"Well, you know I didn't like the people who ran the other affair. I didn't like the way they looked and then it seemed to them they were trying to talk me into something."

"Well," says Jennie, laughing, "what about Miss Thompson? Didn't she try to talk you into something?"

"Not at all, Jen. She's altogether different. First of all she gave out literature that was really interesting. I read it going home from the shop the night she gave it out, and believe me it gave real reasons for joining the union—telling us how women could build organizations just the way men did if we stuck together, and that we could have more pay, shorter hours, more leisure and a better life altogether, all through our own efforts. You know, it made me feel worth while, like a person who really amounted to something."

"And then, the night after she gave it out, I met her on the street car, accidentally. She began to talk about the literature she gave out the night before and asked me what I thought about it. Then she talked about conditions in the shop—and she knew more than I did, it seemed. She was so interesting that when she asked me whether she could visit me at my house some day, I told her she could. Then I got cold feet. When I told mother about it, I was sort of scared, but she only said, 'Well, of course, if you asked her, you'll have to let her come. But you know what I think about union organizers.'"

"Well, she came around a few nights later, and she talked to my whole family about unions. And would you believe it, my family who's always warned me against union agitators because unions only make troubles in the shop and make you lose your job and everything, were so impressed by what Miss Thompson said that mother told me I could go to the meeting Miss Thompson was calling."

"Well, I promised to bring some more girls, but I had some time getting them. I knew all the girls on my floor would come if that red-headed Betty McGowan would, but she's dead set against unions. I worked over her for days. She said union organizers are fakers—but I told her my mother liked Miss Thompson so much she said I could go to the meeting. Then Betty said she didn't want to go because the halls were always far from the trolley, and the meetings lasted forever. I told her Miss Thompson had promised this one would be short, and the hall was only a block from the trolley. So at last she said she'd come."

"I knew she wasn't convinced and she was only going because she thought she could have some fun with me afterwards. She said she wouldn't be taken in by the rough-

neck speeches of the organizers. 'All they do,' she said, 'is swear and smoke cigars like chimneys. And the meeting rooms are filthy and filled with cigar smoke.'"

"Well, were they?" Jennie breaks in.

"No, clean as a pin. I told Miss Thompson what I'd been promising Betty and I told her that if the place was dirty or the meeting long she'd never come again and she'd make all the other girls stay away. Miss Thompson just laughed and said she was sure everything would be all right. Betty had passed around the word in the shop for everyone to come along and for the girls not to talk about the meeting in the shop, because it might get to the foreman and make a lot of trouble."

"How was the meeting?" Jennie interrupts.

"Hey, don't rush me. I'm getting to it. The only thing I'm sorry for is that the girls in your place could not have been there. When we came to the hall, that red-headed Betty got the first surprise of her life. 'Cause the room was large and clean and light—even a soft sofa in the corner. And Miss Thompson's committee who met us were some fine bunch.'"

"What do you mean, Gert?" asks Jennie.

"Oh, you know, Jen—acted as if we were guests and they were a reception committee. One of them did ask us brisly if we'd give them our names and addresses. But Betty McGowan pipes up 'What do you need them for?' The girl who asked for our names said she wanted them so she could keep us all informed about meetings and send us literature. 'Well,' says Betty, 'We don't give strangers our names and addresses. You wait until after the meeting and we'll know whether we want you to have them.'"

"Then after we sat down, Miss Thompson got up and spoke, and believe me, though she did speak only a short time, she certainly did cover ground."

"What did she say?" asks Jennie.

"Oh she talked about about conditions in our shop, and it seemed as if she knew more than most of us. Then she began—girls like us who work so hard deserve to earn at least enough for a living and that didn't mean not paying your family full board."

"Sounds like sense to me," says Jennie.

"Sure is. She said look at your brothers, and believe me I was thinking; take a boy, like my brother Jack, he works hard for a living, all right, but at least he gets paid decently. He earns enough to pay Ma more than twice as much as I do; he buys his own clothes, takes some girls out and he even saves a few dollars for when he gets married. And believe me it certainly sounded like sense when she said, none of us girls could do that."

"Well," says Jennie amazed, "she certainly sounds clever."

"She is," Gert says proudly. "And she went on and said our brothers pay for their board, so when they come home from work they are free. In the evenings they can do whatever they please. And they have enough money to buy clothes and to send their things to the laundry and

the cleaner. But us girls I can't begin working when we leave the shop. There's cleaning and washing and scrubbing, not to talk about serving dinners and washing dishes."

"Gee, I wish my brother Bob could hear her talk that way," ejaculates Jen.

"Don't interrupt, Jen," Gert reproves. "You're making me forget what Miss Thompson said and I want you to hear it all. She said before we're through cleaning house for mother, we haven't any time left to read a paper or a book or do something for ourselves."

"Well, say, after all, we've got to help our mothers," Jennie is dubious. "I couldn't let mine do everything."

"Not at all," says Gert. "She didn't mean that. She even thinks our mothers oughtn't to work so hard. She said our mothers could have leisure only when we girls got paid as well as our brothers and fathers and could have enough money to pay our share of their expenses. Then we could quit work when we left the shop, because mother would have enough money to hire someone to help her."

"Sounds swell," says Jennie. "Can you imagine not having to clean house, scrub floors, wash clothes and iron, and wash the windows? What I wouldn't do if I didn't have house work to do. Only taking care of my clothes. Gee, what bliss!"

"Miss Thompson said we wouldn't even have to spend so much time on our own things. If we earned more money, she said, we could send our clothes to the laundry and the cleaner's and buy things instead of trying to make them and have them look like the devil. With all that off our minds, just think of what we'd be able to do."

"Only, Gert, Jennie says in a puzzled way, 'how would we learn how to run a house for when we got married? You know we can't expect servants, and we have to learn by helping mother.'"

"Well, Miss Thompson had an answer for that. She said a girl doesn't have to spend almost twenty years learning how to run a house when she could learn how to run it more quickly when we needed to. Our mothers would be glad to give us advice, she said."

"That's true. Certainly sounds wonderful. But how can we get all these wonderful things?"

"Oh, Gert replies, 'she kept saying that all we need is to get together in a union and compel our employers to recognize it and deal with it the way our brothers bosses deal with them—collectively, she said. Make our employers pay us for our work the way they pay men. She said our bosses would respect us more because they knew we could stand up for our rights, and she said, even our folks—our fathers, mothers, brothers, and even our boy friends would, too, because we didn't need their help any more. And it certainly sounded like sense to me.'"

"Say, Miss Thompson must be some educated lady."

"Not at all," says Gert. "She told us she worked in a shop from the time she was a girl. But she was active in her union, worked hard for it and she was elected to her local Executive Board. So she learned a

great deal about trade unions. In the evenings, she told us, she went to a labor college in her town and she learned how to speak well and much more about the labor movement. So it's no wonder she can talk so sensibly—she knows the kind of life we lead and she knows how to tell us about it. She's really a corker."

"Says," says Jennie, "I'm sure sorry I couldn't come to your meeting. And I'll be at the next one, come what may."

"Hope you will, Miss Thompson has brains and she knows more about our troubles than we do. She made us all feel that we'll try a union anyway. After she got through talking, even that red-headed Betty McGowan was convinced. She passed the word for all of us to give (he Committee our names and addresses, and she promised Miss Thompson that she'd try to get the girls to join the union at the next meeting."

It seems hardly necessary to explain Gertrude's enthusiasm about Miss Thompson—her approach is so obviously fitted to the needs of the present day girl. A new approach is needed; young people nowadays whether in college, office or shop respond to new stimuli. Women nowadays are conscious of their emergence into a more important place in society; they refuse to accept the old notion that their activities be confined to the home alone. To succeed, the labor movement must utilize this new point of view.

Why should not the labor movement utilize the energies of millions of women, let loose since the war to a very considerable extent, for their own interests? We all know that the growth of the labor movement depends upon the new blood it can infuse into its veins. Youth stands ready and willing to offer it, as we all recognize when she speaks of the "revolt of youth", a revolt not confined to schools, colleges and universities, but present in mills, factories and shops. We can draw on that new blood if we have the vision and understanding for the task; if we can utilize this rejection of the old and searching for the new, especially apparent among women because of their long suppression and their realization since the war that they, too, are a great power in our economic, social and industrial life. For that task we need a new type of organizer to bring into the labor movement this new type of workingwoman—and workingman—and to direct their efforts along constructive lines.

MACCABEES PLAY BROOKLYN WANDERERS NEXT SUNDAY

The Palestine Maccabee soccer team will play the fifth game of its tour next Sunday against the Brooklyn Wanderers of the American Soccer League at Hawthorne Field.

The battle should produce a thriller from start to finish for all the famous Jewish stars of the Wanderers will be seen in action and their clashes with the Palestinians should be well worth traveling many miles to see.

A great game will be seen and if the advance sale of tickets means anything, not a vacant seat of the 15,000 at Hawthorne Field will be seen when the game gets under way at four o'clock.

G. E. B. In Three-Day Session

(Continued from page 3)

the Cleveland organization, giving an account of the satisfactory control of shop conditions; the few still unorganized shops in that market, while not a serious problem, are nevertheless a thorn in the union's side that will have to be removed. In Toledo the cloakmakers are struggling for union recognition against obdurate employers, and the Cleveland leaders are doing their utmost to help them. The Toledo firms have tried to provoke recently a strike at an inopportune time, but the workers would not be trapped and are now bidding their own time, which, they hope, will not be tardy in coming.

Chicago Raincoat Makers

Miss Molly Friedman reported that for several weeks she was in Chicago on General Office work, and found conditions there as described by President Sigman very hopeful. The "left"—Communist officials of the Joint Board are bungling up union affairs in an amazing manner and have shown themselves totally incompetent to do any organization work in the big Chicago non-union field. The mass of the members know that the Communists are unfit to and incapable of leading their union, and it is only a matter of time before the latter will be asked to abdicate in favor of a more honest and more sincere and able element of trade unionists. Miss Friedman also called the attention of the Board to the condition of the excellent Chicago raincoat makers' local, which at the present moment needs real aid in combatting a strong tendency of the local manufacturers to move out of the Chicago-union territory into non-union districts outside of Chicago.

Philadelphia Cloakmakers

Vice-President Julius Hochman, gave a complete account of the New York cloak and dress situation, going over in detail every occurrence of importance shortly after the locals were reorganized. The Joint Board now moved back to its old big quarters, and its functioning is becoming more and more stabilized. On the whole, Mr. Hochman is inclined to view the situation very hopefully, though he sees a great deal of work ahead, but it is constructive upbuilding labor that should inspire every true friend of the union.

Before the reports of the vice-presidents were concluded, President Sigman brought to the attention of the Board the fact that he had visited Philadelphia several times in the past few months and found the cloakmakers' union of that city in fine spirit and an inspiring trade union in every sense of the term. The last meeting he addressed there was attended by eight hundred workers, a very large number for Philadelphia, and the conduct of the members and their intelligent discussion of their local problems and of the affairs of the International Union in general showed that they know their business and know how to mind it. President Sigman also referred to conditions in the cloak and dress local in Los Angeles, and stated that the International hand in mind giving that local assistance in straightening out its affairs and strengthening it.

DECISIONS BY THE G. E. B.

It was decided, among other things, to appoint a committee to offer help to the raincoat workers of Boston and Chicago. On the committee for Chicago are Vice-Presidents Molly Friedman, Kreindler, Ninfo and Dubinsky. For Boston are—Antonini, Halperin and Reisberg.

In the question of proportional representation, it was decided that a to amend the section in

the International constitution dealing with representation at conventions and joint boards be held in October, in conformity with instructions laid down at the convention of the International Union held in Philadelphia in December, 1925. The referendum ballot will offer an alternative choice, that of full, strict proportional representation, or of a modified, gradual representation on the following arrangement: 2 delegates for 300 members or less in a local union; 3 delegates for 1,000 members or less; for local unions having a membership of more than 1,000, three delegates for the first 1,000 and 1 delegate for every additional 1,000 or portion thereof.

Present representation in the union is as follows: 2 delegates for 200 members or less; 3 delegates for 301-500 members; 4 delegates for 501-1,000; from 1,000 up, 4 delegates for first 1,000 and 1 delegate for each additional 1,000.

The alternative proposals will be given a thorough hearing. Committees representing both points of view will fully represent their respective cases to the entire membership at local meetings throughout the country.

On the question of the committee of former members of old Local 17, which came to the General Executive Board, with a petition signed by 700 former members of that local, requesting that the International recharter the former reefer makers into a separate local. It was decided to make an investigation whether there is such a reefer trade in New York, and whether it is different from the regular lines of suits and coats made in the market. The committee is also to investigate on what line of work the 700 signers of the petition are employed at present. Brothers Halperin, Antonini and Gindgold are on the committee.

On the question of educational work. It was decided to recommend urgently to the educational committee to instruct the educational office to formulate its plans in the future to the end that more stress be laid in its activity on mass education and the dissemination of trade union information among as wide circles of the membership as can be reached rather than emphasizing small group and individual instruction.

It was also decided to grant a charter to embroidery workers in Passaic, N. J.

PIONEER YOUTH CAMP OPENED ON JUNE 26

Pioneer Youth Camp, at Rifton, N. Y., in the Catskill Mountains, an educational, creative camp for boys and girls, conducted on a non-profit basis, was opened this week.

The Rifton camp is conducted by the Pioneer Youth of America with the co-operation of progressive educators and labor organizations. It is the purpose of the Pioneer Youth to make available to American boys and girls, children of trade unionists, opportunities for developing into healthy, self-reliant, social-minded and intelligent men and women.

Rates for children of trade unionists are \$13.50 per week. Rates for all children are \$21.00 per week. The low rate for trade unionists is made possible because of special arrangements with many labor organizations.

The camp season began on Sunday, June 26, and will end on Saturday, September 3. Children may register for as many weeks as they wish. The camp is situated on 140 acres of wooded rolling hills and meadows, contains an eight-acre lake and a pond—and is ideally suited for camp

The Furriers' Convention

By P. D.

The eighth convention of the International Fur Workers' Union opened in Washington on the 13th of June and continued through the 18th of June. The sessions, which were attended by 66 delegates from various parts of the United States and Canada, took place in the Building of the American Federation of Labor.

Since the last convention of the Fur Workers' Union, held in Boston about two years ago, the Furriers' International has gone through some grave and anxious days, for during this time the Communists had control over the New York Joint Board of the furriers. It is necessary to bear in mind that New York is the chief market for the fur trade. Sixty per cent of the entire membership of the International are members of the New York fur locals, and these New York locals, under the dictatorship of the Communists, spared no effort during these last two years, to destroy, or at the very least, to discredit the Furriers' International. For one thing they did not even pay the International the per capita which they collected from their members and thus hindered the normal activities of the International.

The Communist leaders of the New York locals did everything possible to compromise the International during the recent strike, as well as in the period following the strike. They mis-spent and misused hundreds and thousands of dollars of the Union's fund, so that, in the end the American Federation of Labor was forced to intervene and put a stop to their "irregular" activities.

The investigation which followed, conducted by the American Federation of Labor revealed an unheard of state of debauchery, demoralization and misuse of enormous sums of money during the 1926 fur strike. This state of affairs, as well as the fact that the Communist-controlled New York locals acted contrary to rules and regulations of the constitution, refusing to pay the International its share of collected dues, caused the American Federation of Labor to suspend the New York locals and their Communist chiefs.

The suspended locals were immediately replaced by newly organized locals, and the American Federation of Labor conducted a registration amongst the furriers. The results surpassed everybody's expectations. In a very short period of time, and in spite of the strong opposition put up by the Communists, all the workers from the large association shops registered with the Furriers' International. About eight thousand workers of the total of twelve thousand working in the entire trade, are employed in these association shops. They are really the backbone of the fur industry, and whoever controls the workers of the association shops, controls the union.

The Communists, of course, could not tolerate so great a defeat, for after their battle in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was lost, their loss of control over the Furriers' Union spelt their utter ruin and bankruptcy in the Jewish trade union movement in the United States. So they gathered all their remaining forces in all the unions, and made a last desperate attempt to fight the organized fur workers on the streets.

At the very moment the newly organized locals of the New York fur

workers, together with representatives of organized workers all over this country and Canada, met to discuss ways and means of bringing back normal conditions in the Furriers' International, which suffered greatly during the last two years because of the intrigues and attacks of the Communists.

The Communist fringe in New York came to the convention in Washington, but was naturally not admitted by the credential committee. They were permitted, however, to appear at the sessions, at which the case of the suspended New York locals was discussed. The "left" delegation, naturally, tried its utmost to impress the leadership of the American Federation of Labor how innocent they were of any misdeeds. But it is interesting to note that while Ben Gold had the floor at the Furriers' Convention at Washington, declaring that he always was loyal and tolerant towards the American Federation of Labor, his colleagues in New York, in the Communist "Freiheit", at their street meetings, and in their leaflets, were sling'g mud at these same leaders of the American Federation of Labor, referring to them in vilest terms; while Gold was stretching forth his hands to President Green with a plea for peace, his agents in New York were slugging innocent furriers, whose only crime was a desire to go peacefully to work, upon the order of the same American Federation of Labor towards which Ben Gold and his band were making such hypocritical approaches.

The Furriers' Convention proves again the hypocrisy of these Communist phrase mongers and shouters of "revolutionary" phrases. And Green, as well as the other leaders of the American Federation of Labor, knew how to discount the declaration of the "left" delegation, and believed not a word of what they said. The convention thereupon adopted a resolution approving the steps taken by the American Federation of Labor, suspending them from the union and taking away from them the responsibility which they bore for the welfare of thousands of fur workers and their families.

The Furriers' International returns from this convention stronger, and more consolidated than it came to it. The newly elected officers and the General Executive Board have a great, arduous task before them—to strengthen the locals all over the country, and especially to pay more attention to the newly-organized locals in New York. This work can be successfully accomplished only through a united effort of all the constructive forces within the Fur Workers' Union. Let us hope, that the reorganized New York fur locals, which have lately shown so much courage and organization ability in their struggle against the irresponsible Communists agents, who sought to bring ruin upon the Furriers' Union, united with the newly elected General Executive Board of the Fur Workers' International, will succeed in strengthening and consolidating the New York organization, which is the backbone of the Fur Workers' International.

CURRENT BOOKS AT REDUCED PRICES

Our Educational Department is continuing its arrangements with leading publishers, which enables it to furnish books to our members at wholesale prices. Lately, very interesting books have appeared on social and economic problems, and also fiction.

It is but six miles away from Kingston, N. Y.

For all information call at, write to or telephone to Pioneer Youth, 3 West 16th Street, New York City. Chelsea 0580.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

The cutters on last Monday night, June 27, at a well-attended meeting in Arlington Hall, had the distinction of being among the first to welcome home the four victims of Communist treachery and blind-alley strategy. The release of five of the prisoners by the Parole Board was achieved through the work of President Sigman. The four men are Joseph Porensky, Local 35, and Nathan Lentz, Sam Cohen and Jos. Pigowitz, members of Local 2.

The appearance of these men at the meeting of the cutters was unexpected. When the meeting was announced, it was not known definitely when they would be released. But when the men were freed last Saturday, June 25, an announcement in the "Jewish Daily Forward" of last Monday notified the cutters that the released prisoners were invited by Manager Dubinsky to address the cutters and tell some of their experiences. In spite of the short notice the cutters packed the meeting room to capacity and gave the men a rousing welcome.

Ask Who Got Defense Collections

Of the three and a half million dollars spent in the last strike, an enormous part was to have been used for the defense. Since the strike, many thousands of dollars have been collected from bazaars, through newspaper appeals and other sources. And yet, never in the history of the union was a strike so mismanaged and so many cloakmakers imprisoned as in the recent strike.

It was Sam Lentz who, in talking about his experiences and the "left" management of the strike, asked the puzzling question as to what happened to these tremendous sums of money that were to be used for relief and defense purposes. None of the monies collected in the shops and at bazaars surely reached him and his fellow-ex-prisoners, while they were confined in jail.

Sam Cohen said that his confinement in prison made him realize the fact that the instructions given him and his then fellow-prisoners, to plead guilty, were only given to enable the Communists to collect money for their cause and to send pictures to Russia of their "revolution" activities in this country.

Rank and File Used to Save Leaders

No amount of eloquence could have brought home to their hearers with greater emphasis than this fact that they were victimized by wanton disregard by the Communists of everything human in order that their cause might be served and their leaders and party members be saved from imprisonment and other hardships.

One did not have to be possessed of extraordinary sagacity to realize that Sam Cohen, as he stood before the cutters and spoke to them, could not have been guilty of a crime that would warrant a term in prison of from two and a half to five years. He is much below average in height and slight of figure. He did not want to heed the advice of the attorney for the Communists to plead guilty. He insisted he was not guilty and pleaded to be allowed to stand a trial.

But like all the other prisoners, he was practically compelled to plead guilty on the promise that "everything was fixed" and that the sentence would hardly amount to more than ninety days. The "fixing" resulted in jail terms for the innocent cloakmakers of from one to three years and from two and a half to five years in prison.

An instance of "left" martyrdom

was told by Cohen concerning Goretzky, former secretary of the Picket Committee. Goretzky, too, was arrested on the same charges along with Cohen and others. Goretzky, however, was not told to plead guilty and when he, Cohen, asked him to explain it, Goretzky said that "I am a leader; I cannot go to jail." And he didn't. He was freed some time later.

While in prison, Cohen met Max Bernstein, formerly a member of Local 10 and now suspended for destructive Communist activity. He posed in the prison as the "manager of Local 10". Even in prison Communist ways and tactics were alive. Every once in a while statements were brought to the cloakmaker prisoners in which Sigman, Dubinsky and Berkman of Amalgamated Clothing Workers were charged with the failure of the strike and with the imprisonment of the cloakmakers.

Also Resort to "Squealing"

The victims in prison were asked to sign "squealer" statements. But they refused, and said they were more interested in being freed and helping in the work of reconstruction than in carrying on pernicious propaganda for the Communists. So when he failed to ensure the men into signing statements of this sort and after an argument that followed refusal, Bernstein, in true Communist fashion, informed the warden that Cohen had threatened him.

The warden called both men to his office and sought to learn from Cohen as to how many unions there were in the prison and to which he belonged. Cohen, of course, was ignorant of what the warden was aiming at and replied that he knew of no such thing. However, the warden told him that he had received a complaint from Bernstein to the effect that he, Cohen, had threatened him.

But this scheme to prolong the confinement of the prisoners who refused to sign statements that charged the International with the crimes of the "lefts", failed completely. When the prisoners saw that only members of the Communist party received protection, as shown by the release of Goretzky, Marks and a certain girl, they decided to appeal to the International, after they had learned that the only sentenced Workers' Party person got a short term in the penitentiary.

When the appeal reached President Sigman, he at once set out to secure the release of the innocent victims. Lentz and Cohen, speaking to the members about this said that, after the numerous attempts to make them believe that it was the International that railroaded them into jail, they were pleasantly surprised with the quick response which met their appeal for help. Later they received frequent visits from Communist leaders and were bombarded with "revolutionary" telegrams.

Pledge to Unite Against Communist Disruption

On one occasion, a visit was made to the prison by Communist leaders, and some of the prisoners who signed the statements denouncing the International and blaming it for their incarceration were called before this committee along with Lentz. The committee promised all except Lentz that they would secure their release in a short time but he, they said, would have to serve his full term. Lentz paid no attention to the Communist schemings, but felt confident that he would be released in a short

time having fully regained his faith in the International and its leaders.

It would take volumes to describe the tortures to which these prisoners were subjected by the Communist commissars. The wife of Brother Feigowitz, another prisoner, who came to plead for relief, was thrown out of the office of the defunct Joint Board, even after an alleged statement of Feigowitz's was printed in the Communist organ, the "Freiheit", though he never signed it nor authorized its publication.

Similar statements were faked and published, though the prisoners never authorized them. Money out of the defense fund never reached them. Their families were not cared for, except by the International. Feigowitz's life savings, about eight hundred dollars, were confiscated by the court to reimburse property damage to an employer sustained by him during the strike. A similar decree was issued against Max Bernstein, but the several thousand dollars worth of damage charged to him were paid out of the defense fund.

This, the ex-prisoners said, opened their eyes to the real meaning of Communism in trade unions. After challenging the "lefts" to prove their charges that the International was responsible for sending them to prison or for the present chaotic conditions in the union, the men pledged themselves and also urged all others to intensify the fight against Communist disruption and continue the struggle to preserve the union for the purpose it was organized.

End of "Reorganization"

The first reorganization, according to the terms of the new agreement in the Industrial Council shops, comes to an end with the close of June. At the last meeting the manager declared that thanks to the standing which the cutters' organization enjoys and to the influence it wields in the industry, the cutters were but slightly affected by the reorganization. Only ten cutters lost their jobs, nine of whom received the week's wages called for under the terms of the agreement and the tenth receiving two weeks' pay with which adjustment he was more than satisfied.

In two shops the employers gave notice of a desire to discharge two cutters. As in all the other cases, Manager Dubinsky took the matter up with the firm, and with the Industrial Council, and saved the jobs of the extra two men, the employers finally agreeing to the dismissal of only one cutter.

The decision of the union, which was brought to the attention of the employers at conferences and reported in these columns last week with regard to the exclusive employment of good-standing members in union shops, will be strictly enforced, the manager said. Certain Communist "stars" agreed to a reduction in wages in order that their jobs might be saved and all others discharged. However, this scheme will not work, as the International is determined to carry out its decision.

Members Urged to Visit Unity House

In the course of his report, Manager Dubinsky extolled the beauties of Unity House and urged those of the members who plan to take vacations or who were planning to send away their wives for a few weeks in the summer, to take advantage of the Unity House. There, he said, they will not only have the finest vacation, but will have it also at about half the cost they would have to pay elsewhere.

Outsiders, that is, non-members of unions, pay \$25 per week. Members of unions other than the International pay \$21 a week, while members of the International and their families

are charged \$18 per week. The facilities offered for recreation are without equal not only to such prices but for prices at least twice as high. The management has engaged an expert chef who exercises the greatest care in the preparation of food.

Social directors have prepared the tennis courts, bowling alleys and ball fields. Dramatic entertainment, camp fires, costume parties, group singing, concerts and dancing every evening to be the music of a fine jazz orchestra have been provided and are ready to be used.

Fourth of July Holiday With Pay

Dubinsky warned the members against working on Independence Day, Monday, July 4th. All of the agreements in all branches of the ladies' garment industry provide that members are not to work on that day and are to be paid for the full week. Members working part of the week are to receive a pro rata share of pay. The usual rigid control will be exercised and members apprehended will be fined. Members are requested to inform the office of any infraction of this rule which may come to their attention.

LETTERS ABOUT "HISTORY OF LOCAL 10"

Dear Mr. Dubinsky:

Many thanks for the copy of the History of Local 10 which you were good enough to send me and for the kind inscription with which you made the gift. I have not had time to do more than a few pages of the book, but you are to be congratulated on carrying the project out, in the midst of a big strike and internal difficulties, in such splendid technical fashion. I shall avail myself of the invitation at the earliest possible moment.

With best wishes for the success of your Local and for their progress of the International, I am

Sincerely yours,

LEWIS L. LORWIN,
(Louis Levine)

Institute of Economics

(Note: Mr. Lorwin is author of the "The Women's Garment Workers".)

Dear Dubinsky:

Upon my return to the city today from Indianapolis, I find your letter and the copy of the History of Local 10.

I shall be glad to read the History, and we shall make mention of the book and of the interesting story of Local 10 in our next issue, as it is an event of value to the whole movement.

Yours,

LOUIS FRANCIS BUDENZ,
Managing Editor, "Labor Age".

Dear Comrade Dubinsky:

Please convey my thanks to the Executive Board and to members of Local 10 for the copy of your anniversary publication. It is indeed kind of them to remember me. Do also accept my thanks to you personally for the fine inscription, whether deserved or not.

J. PANKEN,

Justice, Municipal Court of the City of New York

Dear Mr. Dubinsky:

I have just received the "History of Local 10" by Oneal and I am indeed grateful to you for remembering me with a copy. I look forward to reading it with great interest.

I want to tell you how greatly I enjoyed attending the banquet in connection with your celebration.

I wish for the local many, many years of constructive activity.

Fraternalty yours,

MABEL LESLIE,
Secretary, Women's Trade Union League.